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MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 1

22 DECEMBER 1954

STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF "DEFINITIVE" PLANS

FOR A

PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

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1. The first meeting of the Steering Committee for the development of "definitive" plans for a permanent headquarters building was held on 22 December 1954, at 1430 hours.

2. The following were present at this meeting:

/ Deputy Director (Administration)  
Col. L. K. White, Chairman  
[redacted]

✓ Deputy Director (Intelligence) ✓  
[redacted]

/ Deputy Director (Plans)  
Mr. L. T. Shannon  
[redacted]

✓ Inspector General  
Mr. J. F. Blake  
[redacted]

/ Assistant Director for Communications ✓  
[redacted]

✓ Director of Training  
[redacted]

✓ General Counsel  
Mr. L. A. Houston  
[redacted]

✓ Comptroller  
Mr. R. H. Fuchs  
[redacted]

/ Chief of Logistics  
[redacted]

/ Director of Security  
Col. S. Edwards  
[redacted]

/ Chief, Management Staff  
[redacted]

/ Chief, Real Estate and Construction Division  
[redacted]

✓ The Assistant Director for Personnel was not represented

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3. Colonel White opened the meeting with the statement that the DCI is very interested in obtaining the approval and funds for a new headquarters building during the next year. He handed out a brochure relative to the proposed headquarters building to each member of the Committee and asked that they be returned at the end of the meeting.

4. Colonel White briefed the Committee as follows: That he had talked to the Bureau of the Budget and the General Services Administration and there seems to be no doubt in anyone's mind that we should have a building, and that if we asked for money we could probably obtain it through lease-purchase; that GSA stated that if we could get a waiver of current ODM dispersion standards, they would see us through on lease-purchase; that Mr. Dulles was invited to the Cabinet meeting which was held on 10 December, where the general problem of dispersion was discussed; that our requested waiver from ODM was also discussed and the DCI told Col. White afterwards that while the results of the meeting were generally inconclusive, he had received a clear expression of approval on our requested waiver; and that we are now ready to go to work with GSA in a serious way and see if we can get together on lease-purchase.

5. Col. White further stated that the first thing to be settled is the site selection; that Logistics has made a study of the situation; that there will have to be someone to make the final decisions; and that this person may have to be the DCI, but that he would like to get everyone's opinions and give all of the Committee an opportunity to discuss the problem.

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6. [redacted] then made his presentation on the current status of site selection. He stated that: we had discussed with the Public Buildings Service the problem of providing necessary space for our Agency should we be forced to vacate our present buildings; that PBS felt that no Government-owned buildings would be available to us and that necessary space would have to be provided in one of three ways:

- a. Rental of additional buildings.
- b. Assignment of buildings proposed for construction in the S. W. Washington redevelopment plan.
- c. Construction of a building by the lump-sum or lease-purchase funding method;

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that PBS favoured the construction method and gave us a list of six sites of presently owned Government land within ten miles of the White House to survey; that of these sites the Arlington Hall and the Langley sites were the two most desirable, and that the DCI favoured the Langley site due, primarily, to its location in an undeveloped area and its provision of adequate room for future expansion; that the major obstacle to the utilization of Langley is the lack of adequate access roads, and it, therefore, will be necessary to insure the timely construction of the George Washington Memorial Highway from its present terminus to the site and the improvement of State Highway #123 from Chain Bridge to the site.

7. Col. White stated that the Director does not have a closed mind on the selection of the Langley site and asked for questions and comments. A general discussion was held on the subject and inquiries were made whether or not consideration had been given to the use of the Burke Airport area or the purchase of privately owned land for our purpose. Col. White explained that the Director feels that he must be immediately available to the President, that is, within twenty minutes, and the Director must have his staff immediately available to him and that his staff, in turn, must have their people available to them; therefore, we are limited to the ten mile radius in our site selection. Col. White further explained that we had looked at the Bureau of Engraving buildings and had found them unsuitable to our needs. He also expressed an opinion that the development of the S. W. Washington area would probably be too far in the future for us. He further explained that it was not considered desirable to contemplate the purchase of privately owned property until all available Government-owned land had been investigated.

STAT [redacted] provided the information that the proposed usage of Arlington Hall would undoubtedly be delayed for some years by current Department of Defense plans for the property; in fact, it was believed that we would experience great difficulty in securing this property for our usage at all. There was general agreement by the Committee that the Langley site would be the most desirable of the sites surveyed, provided we can provide a satisfactory solution to the following problems:

- a. Providing necessary utilities.
- b. Providing adequate access roads to the site.
- c. Overcoming possible civic objections.

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Col. White outlined the preliminary work that had been done on these problems and stated that he felt that these problems could be solved. The Committee approved the selection of the Langley site provided that we receive assurance of adequate utilities and the timely construction of necessary access roads, and obtain necessary civic approval.

8. Col. White then stated that our next step would be the development of space requirements for our building. He also stated that he felt each component of the Agency should be given an opportunity to advance their ideas regarding the plans for the new building and that the building should be developed around those ideas. A brief discussion was held on this problem and then [redacted] made a few remarks regarding the submission of space requirements and suggested the appointment of a project officer from each major component of the Agency to work with Real Estate and Construction on the development of these requirements. The following personnel were so designated:

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Deputy Director (Plans)

[redacted]

Deputy Director (Intelligence)

[redacted]

Assistant Director for Communications

[redacted]

Director of Training

[redacted]

Deputy Director (Administration)

[redacted]

Col. White explained that [redacted] would serve as project officer for all DD/A components and that representatives of General Counsel, Comptroller, Logistics, and Security, were on the Steering Committee to furnish assistance in their several fields.

9. [redacted] queried the advisability of providing a consulting architect to assist the Agency in presenting its requirements to PBS. [redacted] stated that it was our plan to engage the services of an Architect-Engineering firm later to develop our detailed construction plans and that he felt that we had competent personnel for the earlier exercises. Col. White requested that Agency personnel qualified to assist in this problem be made known to the Committee.

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10. A date of 28 January 1955 was established for the submission of the space requirements to Real Estate and Construction Division. Col. White cautioned those present on the advisability of keeping the selection of the Langley site confidential until it should be released officially, and adjourned the meeting at 1545 hours.

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[Redacted]  
Secretary

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